

Joint Shellfish Mariculture Permit Application Process

1. Request a joint shellfish mariculture application package from SCDNR.
2. It is highly recommended that you consult with SCDNR Office of Shellfish Management before completing your application package. Call (843) 953-0126 to schedule a consultation.
3. Complete the application and all required attachments.
4. Submit application with \$25 non-refundable application fee to SCDNR.
5. Provide any additional information that SCDNR may request upon review of your application materials.
6. After initial approval, which includes determination of eligibility and availability of the proposed location, SCDNR will send your application package to OCRM and USACE.
7. If your proposal qualifies for general permits from OCRM and USACE, SCDNR will notify you of conditional approval. Once SCDNR grants conditional approval you will be required to place a classified ad for three weeks in a paper of general circulation in your county. After the advertising period, provide proof of advertising to SCDNR Marine Permitting office. **This advertising also satisfies the OCRM advertising requirement. Do not initiate this advertising until instructed by SCDNR.**
8. If your proposal does not qualify for general permits from OCRM and/or USACE you will be notified by those agencies. You will have the option for applying for individual permits from those agencies. Individual permits have additional fees and require more information. Applicants may wish to schedule an interagency meeting to discuss the permit and the permit requirements before proceeding.
9. DNR will not issue your final mariculture permit until it receives verification that you have been granted permits from OCRM and USACE, as well as completing the advertising requirement. When you receive your approvals from USACE and OCRM please call DNR to make an appointment to complete the permitting process.
10. DNR will create a permit map delineating your mariculture permit area. Your annual rent will be based upon the acreage of the permit area at \$5/acre. The minimum billable acreage is 0.5 acres. You may have an approved permit smaller than this but it will be billed at 0.5 acres. The pro-rated first year's rent must be received prior to issuing the permit.
11. If you qualify for general permits you can probably complete the permitting process in about two months. If your proposal requires individual permits, the permitting process will take considerably longer, possibly 9-12 months.

Agency Contacts:

SCDNR Shellfish Management - contact Henry DaVega at 843-953-0126 or Nancy Hadley 843-953-9841

USACE Regulatory Division - contact project manager of the day at 843-329-8044

OCRM - contact project manager at 843-953-0200